

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, CO

SUBJECT: LOPEZ STATE VISIT; DRAFT TEXT FOR WHITE HOUSE TOAST

REF: STATE 195420

1. FOLLOWING IS SUGGESTED DRAFT FOR PRES FORD'S TOAST AT WHITE HOUSE DINNER: BEGIN QUOTE. IN RISING TO PROPOSE A TOAST TO YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, AND TO THE GREAT REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA, I THINK IT IS FITTING TO RECALL THAT UPON THIS, THE OCCASION OF YOUR STATE VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES, WE CELEBRATE BY HAPPY COINCIDENCE, THE 150 TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PROCLAMATION OF THE FIRST TREATY BETWEEN COLOMBIA AND THE UNITED STATES, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN 1825. MANUEL TORRES, THEN COLOMBIA'S CHARGE D'AFFAIRES, AND THE ONLY ACCREDITED ENVOY OF A SPANISH-AMERICAN POWER IN THE UNITED STATES AT THAT TIME, HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED AS EARLY AS 1820 REGARDING A COMMERCIAL TREATY TO BE NEGOTIATED ON THE BASIS OF, AND I QUOTE, "STRICT EQUALITY AND RECIPROCITY". THAT TREATY WAS PROCLAIMED ON MAY 31, 1825.

2. THUS, MR PRESIDENT, THE ROOTS OF OUR FRIENDLY RELATIONS ARE INDEED DEEP, AND IT IS A SOURCE OF PRIDE TO BOTH OUR NATIONS THAT THE GREAT LIBERATOR, SIMON BOLIVAR, SOON AFTER THE FINAL BATTLE FOR INDEPENDENCE IN 1891, SENT ONE OF HIS FIRST DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES DON MANUEL TORRES TO THIS COUNTRY--ITSELF THEN A YOUNG, STRUGGLING REPUBLIC. AND THOUGH THE BOLD BOLIVARIAN DREAM OF A UNITED AMERICA FROM NORTH TO SOUTH WAS NOT REALIZED, THE SEEDS WERE SOWN IN THOSE EARLY YEARS IN PHILADELPHIA, IN THE FRIENDSHIP

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BETWEEN PRESIDENT MONROE AND MANUEL TORRES, AND IN THE

ADMIRATION OF OUR YOUNG REPUBLIC FOR THE GLORIOUS, FINAL VICTORY OF BOYACA, FOR THAT VIGOROUS FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR COUNTRIES THAT CONTINUES TO OUR DAY.

3. THIS RELATIONSHIP HAS BEEN ADMIRABLY EXPRESSED BY AN ILLUSTRIOUS PRESIDENT OF COLOMBIA, ALFONSO LOPEZ PUMAREJO, WHOSE DISTINGUISHED SON HONORS US WITH HIS PRESENCE TONIGHT. DURING HIS INAUGURAL ADDRESS IN 1934, PRESIDENT LOPEZ PUMAREJO SAID : "OUR FOREIGN RELATIONS IN THE FUTURE MUST NOT BE BASED ON THAT FORMAL RECIPROCITY OF SOULLESS DIPLOMATIC NOTES THAT TRAVEL FROM CHANCERY TO CHANCERY. WE SHALL TRY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO INVIGORATE THE TIES OF COOPERATION AND ACTIVE FRIENDSHIP WITH ALL NATIONS BUT, ABOVE ALL, WITH THOSE OF OUR HEMISPHERE..."

4. HOW WELL DISTINGUISHED FATHER, AND PERMIT ME TO ADD, EXCELLENCY, DISTINGUISHED SON, HAVE SUCCEEDED IN THAT NOBLE VENTURE. NOWHERE IS THIS BETTER SEEN THAN IN OUR MUTUAL RELATIONS TODAY, BORN, I WOULD SAY, MR PRESIDENT, OF A PRECIOUS, COMMON HERITAGE; OUR DEMOCRATIC FORMS OF GOVERNMENT WERE FORGED OUT OF THE TRAVAIL OF WARS OF INDEPENDENCE; WE PAID THE PORTION ASKED OF US OF BLOOD AND TREASURE TO ACHIEVE OUR LONG SOUGHT DREAM OF FREE MEN WHO GIVE THEMSELVES FREE INSTITUTIONS AND THAT MEASURE OF JUSTICE THAT ONLY FREEDOM BRINGS. AND FOR THE UNITED STATES, ON THE EVE OF CELEBRATING ITS TWO HUNDREDTH YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE, IT IS A SOURCE OF PROFOUND SATISFACTION, AS FELLOW AMERICANS, TO KNOW THAT UPON ITS PROCLAMATION, THE CARTA DE FILADELFIA SWEEPED LIKE A FIRE STORM THROUGH YOUR COUNTRY, AND THROUGH THE LANDS TO THE SOUTH, MAKING IRREVERSIBLE AND INEVITABLE THE PRECESS THAT ESTABLISHED OUR COMMON FREEDOM.

5. TODAY, NO LESS THAN YESTERDAY, WE ARE BOUND BY COMMON ASPIRATIONS; THE DESIRE TO SEE THE RULE OF LAW REIGN IN OUR RELATIONS AND AMONG ALL NATIONS; THE NEED, NOW AS THEN, FOR STRICT EQUALITY AND RECIPROCITY IN OUR RELATIONS; AND OUR COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT IN THE INFINITELY COMPLEX WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE, WITH ITS FINITE RESOURCES, ITS UNEQUAL DIVISION OF RICHES, THE TEMPTATION TOWARDS CONFRONTATION RATHER THAN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NEGOTIATION WITH THE RISKS THAT THIS INVOLVES FOR ALL OF MANKIND, THAT FRIENDLY NATIONS ARE CALLED UPON, OUT OF NECESSITY, TO DEFEND EACH UPON THE OTHER AND TO ENLARGE THIS PROCESS TO INCLUDE ALL THE NATIONS OF WHAT, IN BUCKMINSTER FULLER'S TRUE FIGURE OF SPEECH, IS CALLED "SPACESHIP EARTH".

6. AS I SAID THIS MORNING, MR PRESIDENT, COLOMBIA HOLDS A UNIQUE PLACE IN THE COUNCIL OF NATIONS OF OUR HEMISPHERE.

YOUR COUNTRY, IS KNOWN FOR ITS MORAL AND INTELLECTUAL LEADERSHIP, FOR ITS MODERATION TEMPERED BY A KEEN SENSE OF JUSTICE FOR ITS DEDICATION TO THE STRUGGLE TO BRING A GREATER MEASURE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL JUSTICE TO YOUR PEOPLE AND ALL THE PEOPLES OF THIS HEMISPHERE. WE IN THE UNITED STATES ARE PROUD TO WALK THAT PATH WITH YOU.

7. LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I ASK THAT YOU JOIN ME IN A TOAST TO HIS EXCELLENCY, PRESIDENT ALFONSO LOPEZ MICHELSEN, TO MRS. LOPEZ AND TO THE GREAT NATION AND PEOPLE OF COLOMBIA. MAY OUR TWO COUNTRIES ALWAYS WALK TOGETHER IN MUTUAL CONFIDENCE AND RESPECT AND MAY OUR FRIENDSHIP CONTRIBUTE TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THOSE AGE OLD GOALS OF MANKIND; PEACE, FREEDOM AND JUSTICE. END QUOTE.
VAKY

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